

[5th February 1925]

(g) if the Government have no information with reference to clauses (a) to (f), whether they will be pleased to call for the information?

A.—The Government have no information but have called for a report

Mr. R. VEERIAN:—“May I know from the hon. the Minister for Education whether the report said to have been called for will be placed on the table of the House as soon as it is received?”

The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO:—“Yes.”

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS.

Emigration.

Recruitment of coolies to Assam.

125 Q.—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) the action taken by the Government on the report of the Commissioner of Labour No. E. 276/24, dated 22nd November 1924, regarding the recruitment of coolies to Assam;

(b) the number of Sirdars in the Madras Presidency who held offices as such, in November 1924, though they had not worked on the estates in Assam even for three months; and

(c) whether there is any provision for sending back on a medical certificate coolies who are recruited for Assam tea estates but are unable to stand the climate there?

A.—(a) The Government have addressed the Government of Assam and the Assam Labour Board in connexion with the report;

(b) The Government have no information.

(c) There is no provision to this effect in the Assam Labour and Emigration Act, 1901, as amended; attention is, however, invited to section 159 of the Act.

Forests.

Reserve forests in Agaram firka in Vellore taluk.

126 Q.—Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) the names of the villages in the Agaram firka in Vellore taluk, North Arcot district, where the cultivated lands and homesteads are within a distance of half a mile of the reserved forests;

(b) how many villagers have their patta lands just adjacent to and touching the reserve line;

(c) the extent of grazing poramboke available in each village;

(d) whether it is a fact that more than 1,000 acres of the present reserve were under cultivation by the ryots of these villages prior to the resettlement some twelve years back;

(e) whether it is a fact that wells, survey stones, etc., are found within the reserve limits even to-day; and

(f) whether the whole forest area is mere scrub jungle and is used only for grazing?

5th February 1925]

A.—The Government have no information. A special report has been called for from the Chief Conservator on forest questions in the North Arcot district and the points raised by the hon. Member will be referred to him.

The Arasampattu reserve forest in North Arcot district.

127 Q.—MR. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether Arasampattu reserve was within the Vellore-Ambur range in North Arcot district for the last forty years;

(b) whether within the last five years it has been split up into small portions and attached to a number of ranges;

(c) if so, what are the ranges;

(d) whether ryots are obliged to take different permits for grazing the same cattle in different ranges; and

(e) whether the Government have under their consideration the question of allowing one single permit to be available for grazing cattle in all the ranges within the same reserve?

A.—(a), (b) & (c) The Government have no information. A special report has been called for from the Chief Conservator on forest questions in the North Arcot district. The points raised by the hon. Member will be referred to him.

(d) Yes.

(e) Yes.

Permits for cattle grazing in the reserve forests in North Arcot district.

128 Q.—MR. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that penning cattle within the reserve is allowed on a payment of rupee one per annum per pen in North Arcot district; and

(b) whether the District Forest Officer, North Vellore, recently refused to allow such permits to the ryots generally and to the village munsif of Arimalai in Vellore taluk?

A.—The Government have no information. A separate report has been called for from the Chief Conservator on forest questions in the North Arcot district and the points now raised by the hon. Member will be referred to him.

Petitions from ryots in North Arcot district regarding disafforestation of reserves, etc.

129 Q.—MR. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether he has received petitions from ryots from North Arcot district regarding—

(i) disafforestation of reserves,

(ii) free supply of manure leaves, and

(iii) grazing permits being available in all the ranges within one reserve;

[5th February 1925]

(b) whether he has obtained the views of the Forest officers on the subject;

(c) whether he has passed any orders on these petitions; and

(d) whether Government have under consideration the appointment of a committee to inquire into the forest grievances of the ryots in North Arcot district on the lines of the Chittoor Forest Committee?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) & (c) A special report has been called for from the Chief Conservator

(d) No.

Cultivable land in reserve forests.

130 Q.—Mr. C. D. APPAVU CHETTIYAR: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Chief Conservator of Forests has issued a circular recently that even if there is arable land inside the reserve forest, such land should not be given for cultivation but it should be given to village panchayat?

A.—The Government are informed that no circular containing such an instruction as is referred to by the hon. Member has been issued.

Government policy of afforestation.

131 Q.—Mr. M. RATNASWAMI: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have any policy of afforestation to be put into effect in the near future; and

(b) if they have such a policy, the chief measures of that policy?

A.—(a) & (b) If by afforestation the hon. Member means the addition of new areas to the Forest Reserves, it is not the present policy of Government to undertake such general additions; but if the hon. Member refers to the regeneration of forest growth in forest areas which have been denuded of trees, that is a policy which the Government have constantly in view.

132 Q.—[Cancelled.]

Criminal Justice.

Posting of cases to Aruppukottai by the Divisional Magistrate of Ramnad.

133 Q.—Diwan Bahadur P. C. ETHIRAJULU NAYUDU: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that owing to the Divisional Officer, Sivakasi, having no appellate powers all criminal appeals are transferred to Ramnad Divisional Officer and the parties put to enormous worry and expense; and

(b) whether it is a fact that the Divisional Officer, Ramnad, posts his criminal cases to Aruppukottai where plague has been raging for some months past and the parties are unnecessarily put in danger of losing their lives; how many days he camped in Aruppukottai for the last three months and how many cases were posted there?

5th February 1925]

A.—(a) The Subdivisional Magistrate, Sivakasi, has not been granted appellate powers yet.

(b) The Government have no information on these points.

Seating arrangements for pleaders, etc., in Sub-Magistrates' Courts.

134 Q.—Mr. V. HAMID SULTAN MARAKKAYAR: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that, in the matter of seating arrangements for pleaders and lawyers in the mufassal Sub-Magistrates' Courts, benches are provided; and

(b) whether Government intend to provide chairs instead?

A.—(a) Both benches and chairs are provided.

(b) The matter is within the discretion of each Magistrate; the Government have received no complaints.

Indian Civil Service members employed as District and Additional District Judges.

135 Q.—Sriman SASIBHUSHAN RATH Mahasayo: Will the hon. the Law Member and the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state how many members of the Indian Civil Service of less than ten years' service are at present employed as District and Additional District Judges?

A.—None.

Certain remarks of the Collector of Bellary on an application for licence for a procession.

136 Q.—Mr. P. SIVA RAO: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to the following remarks of Mr. A. C. Duff, the Collector of Bellary, in his proceedings D. Dis. C No. 1808/24-A-2, dated the 15th of October 1924, regarding the application made by the alleged Pattadaswami of Sirigeri mut for a licence to go in procession through the village of Uttangi in the same district with certain paraphernalia:

“A District Magistrate in a district is not the authority to grant recognition of a ‘Guru’. Neither are civil courts the authority. The Panchacharas admit that their Gurus received their recognition from the King. To-day the local representative of the King in the district is the District Collector; I recognize the Sadar Guru as a ‘Guru’. I hold that as Collector I am competent to recognize the Sadar Guru as a ‘Guru’;” and

(b) whether the views of the Collector above quoted are correct and he is justified in arrogating to himself the position of the King's local representative in the district?

A.—(a) & (b) The Government have no information about the matter referred to.

[5th February 1925]

Irrigation.*Irrigation Panchayats, Bellary district.*

137 Q.—MR. P. SIVA RAO: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state whether irrigation panchayats have been established for only two channels of the Tungabhadra in the Bellary district and he proposes to extend the panchayats to the other Tungabhadra channels in the district?

A.—The hon. Member is referred to G.O. No. 220 L, dated 8th August 1923, which has been placed on Editors' Table. As regards the second portion, no such proposal is under the consideration of Government at present.

Electricity.*Supply of electric power to Ootacamund, etc.*

138 Q.—MR. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have any intention of taking up the question of themselves arranging to get electric power and to supply it to the towns of Ootacamund, Coonoor, Wellington and Coimbatore;

(b) whether the right of supplying the power to those places has been given to any private firm and if so, when and under what conditions; and

(c) whether the Government are negotiating to purchase the right from that firm and if so in what stage those negotiations are now?

A.—(a) The matter has been taken up already and is under consideration.

(b) Yes; in October 1920, subject to the formation of a registered company to work the concession.

(c) No.

Government Press.*The work in the Government Press, Madras.*

139 Q.—RAO SAHIB U. RAMA RAO: Will the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Superintendent, Government Press, discontinued printing his own office establishment list;

(b) if so, since what date;

(c) whether it is a fact that seven Tamil District Gazettes are being printed and issued from the Government Branch Press, Mount Road; whether it is also a fact that the present acting Senior Examiner of the same Press is unacquainted with the Tamil language;

(d) what are the various duties of the Examiner in charge of the Government Branch Press, Mount Road; whether it is a fact that seven or eight experienced copyholders' services were dispensed with during the present acting Senior Examiner's short tenure of office;

(e) whether it is a fact that the revised edition of the Government Press Manual has not yet been published; when was the last edition printed; and who is responsible for the delay; and

(f) the number of dismissals, departmentalwar, made by Mr. Gilbert, the present Superintendent, Government Press, from the date of his assumption of the office of Superintendent to the end of 30th September 1924?

5th February 1925]

Irrigation.

Regulation of field irrigation.

* 110 Q.—Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Public Works Department subordinates regulate field irrigation ;

(b) if so, whether they are guided by the applications for water ;

(c) whether there are any principles adopted in the disposal of applications and certification of irrigability for granting water-supply to lands ;

(d) if so, the tests which go to decide the irrigability or otherwise of lands for granting permits for permanent supply or for transferring the lands to permanent wet, or for refusing water-supply to the lands ;

(e) whether it is a fact that the Executive Engineer, Madura division, does not mention the reason or justify his action for refusing supply of water to certain lands for the information of the party and the Revenue Department ; and

(f) if so, whether the Government will in future instruct the officer to specify the reasons for refusing supply of water ?

A.—(a) Under the larger irrigation systems the general distribution of water is controlled by the irrigation staff, but not the detailed distribution from field to field.

(b), (c) & (d) Where procedure by water application is in use, the applications are dealt with on the basis of sufficiency of supply, possibility of command and any special factors which would prejudicially affect permanent wet lands or other public interests. Subject to these necessary considerations it is the definite policy of Government to extend irrigation to the largest possible area.

(e) & (f) It is not possible to give an adequate reply without specific instances, but if it is considered that in any district water applications are unreasonably refused the Chief Engineer will enquire into the matter if specific instances are given.

Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR :—“ Sir, with regard to clause (f) I am referring to the Madura district, and I want the reasons should be given so that the applicant may appeal to the higher authorities. Moreover, if the reasons are not given in the application it will be impossible to find out whether the application is based on proper grounds.”

The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ I shall consider that matter, Sir.”

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—“ One of the factors taken into account in these matters is the sufficiency of water. May I know if, when an application for water is granted, the Government guarantee the supply of water ?”

The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ No, Sir.”

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—“ May I know if, as a result of these applications, there is really any appreciable change in the extent of land under cultivation either under first crop or under second crop ?”

The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ I want notice, Sir.”

[5th February 1925]

the proportion admissible up to the date of grant as calculated with reference to the maximum of 15 days for the whole year. The Government are of opinion that this involves no hardship.

Deputy Collectors.

The work of the Divisional Officer of Ramnad.

141 Q.—Diwan Bahadur P. C. ETHIRAJULU NAYUDU : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Divisional Magistrate's work in Ramnad is normally heavy and one Mr. R. Subrahmanya Ayyar is the Deputy Collector in charge of that division ;

(b) the total number of years during which he has exercised magisterial functions ;

(c) whether any complaints have been received that he is rude to legal practitioners appearing in his court ; and

(d) whether he was recently confirmed in his appointment and whether he superseded any non-Brahmans in service and how many and on what grounds ?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) A little more than seven years.

(c) No.

(d) He was recently confirmed as deputy collector. He did not supersede any non-Brahman acting as deputy collector.

Orders of transfer of Mr. R. Subrahmanya Ayyar, Divisional Magistrate, Ramnad.

142 Q.—Diwan Bahadur P. C. ETHIRAJULU NAYUDU : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that Mr. R. Subrahmanya Ayyar, Deputy Collector in charge of Ramnad division, was recently transferred to be the Land Acquisition Officer for Virudunagar-Tenkasi Railway ; whether it is also a fact Mr. N. Kovilpillai, a senior Deputy Collector, was posted to that division and had actually gone to Ramnad to take over charge ;

(b) whether it is a fact that the said Mr. Subrahmanya Ayyar received telegraphic orders cancelling his transfer and Mr. D. Manikkam Pillai, an Indian Christian Deputy Collector of Devakottai senior to Mr. Ayyar, was transferred to land acquisition duty ; and

(c) whether it is a fact that Mr. Kovilpillai was asked to go to Devakottai after he had reached Ramnad and why this extraordinary step was taken in favour of the junior Deputy Collector Mr. Ayyar ?

A.—Yes. The change in the postings was made in the public interests.

Irrigation.

Repairs to the bund of Banki Eri in Vellore taluk.

143 Q.—Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the bund of one Banki Eri that was irrigating the villages of Kallapurai, Asanampet, Pudupet, etc., in Vellore taluk, North Arcot district, was broken some twenty years back ; and

5th February 1925]

(b) whether it is a fact that it has not been repaired yet and whether the villagers concerned suffer for want of irrigation facilities?

A.—(a) & (b) The Government have no information.

Land Revenue.

Assignment of lands in Valkadai, North Arcot district.

144 Q.—Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased, with reference to answer to interpellation No. 1193, dated 14th November 1924, to call for and lay on the table a report as to—

(a) whether any applications for house-sites have been received from the people of Valkadai;

(b) how many applications were received for the assignment of lands from members of depressed classes and from caste people;

(c) how many assignments have so far been made;

(d) of the above how many for the depressed classes and how many for the caste-people;

(e) whether any portion has been specially reserved for the depressed classes;

(f) if not specially reserved for the depressed classes, whether the land is available for being assigned to ryots of the other castes under Darkhast rules;

(g) whether Government are considering the feasibility of organizing co-operative societies for the common cultivation of the disafforested areas; and

(h) whether any such proposals have been received?

A.—There are no facts before the Government which render any enquiry necessary.

Agricultural holdings of 4 acres and less in the Presidency.

145 Q.—Mr. M. RATNASWAMI: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) the number of agricultural holdings of 4 acres and less in the Presidency;

(b) the proportion such holdings bear to the total number of holdings; and

(c) the proportion borne by the revenue paid by such holdings to the total land revenue of the Presidency?

A.—The revenue accounts contain particulars of pattas, not of holdings. It is possible that one patta covers more than one holding or only part of one holding. Pattas are not classified according to the extent of land they refer to but according to the amount of revenue payable on each. The information the hon. Member requires is therefore not available.

Village Establishments.

District Village Officers' conference held at Mayavaram and Chidambaram.

146 Q.—Rao Bahadur K. KRISHNASWAMI NAYUDU: Will the hon. the Revenue Member be pleased to state whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the resolutions passed at the District Village Officers'

[5th February 1925]

conference held at Mayavaram and Chidambaram on 12th October 1924 and 15th December 1924 respectively and if so, what action they propose to take to annul the amalgamation of villages as already resolved upon by the Legislative Council?

A.—Yes. The question is under consideration.

'Batta' for karnams for doing electoral work.

147 Q.—MR. P. SIVA RAO: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state whether the 'batta' payable to karnams for work done in the preparation of electoral rolls before the last general elections and sanctioned in G.O. No. 1958, Revenue, dated 21st August 1920, has been disbursed in the districts of Anantapur and Bellary; if not, the reasons for the delay and whether the hon. Member proposed to issue necessary instructions for speedy payment?

A.—Under the Government Order quoted no batta was sanctioned for work to be done but a lump sum was promised in case the village officers were specially summoned away from their villages. The Government have no reason to believe that payments so promised have been delayed or withheld.

Local Boards and Municipal Councils.

The Dindigul Municipal Council.

148 Q.—MR. V. HAMID SULTAN MARAKKAYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) how long the Dindigul municipality had enjoyed the privilege of electing its chairman before it was deprived of it by recent orders;

(b) whether Government acted on the initiative of the municipal council or of any of their officers;

(c) whether it is a fact that the council by a majority decided that it should not be deprived of its privilege of electing its chairman;

(d) the authority under which the Government took this step;

(e) whether Government have received a letter from the Chairman, Municipal Council, protesting against the proposal;

(f) what orders the Government have passed thereon;

(g) whether it is a fact that several councillors have resigned as a protest; and

(h) when the Government propose to reinvest the council with its franchise?

A.—(a) The Municipal Council enjoyed the privilege since 1885.

(b) to (h) The matter having been fully discussed at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on 5th December 1924 the Government are not prepared to furnish any further information.

Local boards and municipalities in which public funds were misappropriated.

149 Q.—MR. G. RAMESWARA RAO: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) all the cases in local boards and municipalities where public funds were misappropriated;

5th February 1925]

- (b) who the delinquents are so far as present investigations go ;
- (c) what are all the steps taken to book the offenders and to recover the sums misappropriated ;
- (d) whether investigation is complete in all the cases and if not, the cases still pending investigation ;
- (e) who was in charge of the investigation and who is in charge now, whether it is departmental officers or the police ;
- (f) what is the amount embezzled in each case and what is the amount recovered in each case and whether the balance is irrecoverable ; and
- (g) whether any of the persons were put before the criminal courts and with what result ?

A.—The question does not state the year or years in respect of which the particulars are required. The attention of the hon. Member is however invited to the following paragraphs in the consolidated audit reports of municipalities and local boards for the years 1921-22, 1922-23 and 1923-24 :—

- (1) Paragraph 11 in Part I and paragraph 4 in Part II of the report for 1921-22 recorded in G.O. No. 487, Finance, dated 31st May 1923, which has been placed on the Editors' Table.
- (2) Paragraphs 37 to 39 and 62 and 63 of the report for 1922-23 recorded in G.O. No. 2769, L. & M., dated the 4th October 1924 (placed on the Editors' Table).
- (3) Paragraphs 35 and 73 of the report for 1923-24 (extracts appended).

Such particulars of the defalcations as are worth mentioning are furnished in the paragraphs referred to above.

Complete information in each case on all the points referred to in the question is not available.

Village roads in the Tirukkoyilur taluk.

150 Q.—Mr. M. RATNASWAMI: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

- (a) whether any new village roads have been built in the Tirukkoyilur taluk of the South Arcot district in the year 1924-25 ;
- (b) whether any petitions have been received by the district authorities from certain Christian villages of Eraiyur in the Tirukkoyilur taluk of the South Arcot district in October of last year for the building of a road in their neighbourhood ; and
- (c) what action the district authorities have taken in the matter ?

A.—The Government have no information.

District Retrenchment Committee for Bellary.

151 Q.—Mr. P. SIVA RAO: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Government appointed a District Retrenchment Committee for the district of Bellary to consider the financial position of the 'local boards' in the district ;

[5th February 1925]

(b) if so, who were the personnel of the said Committee and what were its recommendations;

(c) whether it is a fact that the Committee recommended that the taluk boards in the district should be reconstituted on the basis of the revenue divisions and that in consequence the newly formed taluk boards of Harpanahalli and Rayadrug should be abolished; if so, for what reasons;

(d) when were the taluk boards of Rayadrug and Harpanahalli constituted;

(e) whether it is a fact that the President of the District Board, Bellary, as the President of the said Committee, forwarded the said recommendations for the favourable consideration of the Government; if so, on what date; and

(f) whether the District Board and the concerned taluk boards of the district were consulted and their opinion taken before the said recommendations were forwarded to the Government?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) The Presidents of the District Board and Taluk Boards, the Collector of the district and the Treasury Deputy Collector, Bellary. Copies of its^a proceedings, dated 1st December 1923 and 30th March 1924, are appended.

(c) Yes; in its proceedings of the 30th March 1924 for the reasons that such re-arrangement will remove several anomalies alleged to be prevailing and that it will conduce to economy.

(d) The Rayadrug Taluk Board was constituted with effect from 1st April 1911 and Harpanahalli with effect from 31st March 1921.

(e) Yes on 2nd April and 23rd June 1924

(f) Yes.

Abolition of the Taluk Boards of Harpanahalli and Rayadrug.

152 Q.—MR. P. SIVA RAO: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the President of the Bellary District Board recommended to the Government the abolition of both the Taluk Boards of Harpanahalli and of Rayadrug or only that of Rayadrug; if so, what were the reasons made out by him for this invidious distinction;

(b) what is the present financial condition of (i) Bellary District Board, (ii) of the four taluk boards in the district; whether they are working with a deficit or with a surplus; whether it is a fact that the budget of the Rayadrug Taluk Board is now balanced;

(c) what is the saving that would be effected if the Rayadrug Taluk Board is abolished;

(d) what is the reconstitution of the Taluk Boards proposed in case the Rayadrug Taluk Board is abolished;

(e) whether the opinions of the District Board and the concerned Taluk Boards have since been called for by the Government; if so, on what date; whether all the opinions have been received and whether he will lay the whole correspondence on the table;

^a Printed as Appendix III on pages 349-350 infra.

5th February 1925]

(f) whether it is a fact that the Government order calling for the opinion of the Local Boards was received by the District Board of Bellary on the 16th of October and it was placed by the President before the meeting of the District Board convened for the 18th October without notice and inserted in the agenda at the fag end of the day at about 8-15 p.m.;

(g) whether certain members of the District Board, Messrs. Kotilingam, A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar and Mr. K. Brahma Sastri protested against its being placed for consideration at the said meeting and their protest was not heeded by the President and whether any of them have sent up any dissenting minutes in respect of the same matter; and

(h) whether the Government propose to remit the question for the reconsideration of that Board under the circumstances?

A.—(a) The District Committee, appointed to consider the financial condition of each local board in the Bellary district, recommended the abolition of the Rayadrug Taluk Board as its finances were unsatisfactory. According to the normal budget prepared by that committee, the revenues of the Harpanahalli Taluk Board covered its expenditure.

(b) The information is given below:—

Name of board.	Anticipated closing balance according to budget for 1924-25 after taking credit for the compassionate grant given in column (2).		Surplus or deficit according to normal budget.
	Compassionate grant.	Closing balance.	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
	RS.	RS.	RS.
Bellary District Board ...	32,209	1,998	+ 10,000
Adoni Taluk Board ...	...	— 3,736	+ 4,122
Bellary Taluk Board ...	...	— 4,403	+ 7,205
Rayadrug Taluk Board ...	3,447	...	— 3,455
Hospet Taluk Board ...	...	1,459	+ 210
Harpanahalli Taluk Board.	2,781	...	+ 450

The Rayadrug Taluk Board submitted a revised normal budget showing a surplus of about Rs. 207. It could not be approved as it was impracticable.

(c) About Rs. 3,980.

(d) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer to question No. 330.

(e) The opinions of the District Board and the Taluk Boards were called for in G.O. No. 2849, L. & M., dated 14th October 1924. The opinions have been received. The Government are not prepared to lay the correspondence on the table.

(f) & (g) The Government understand that the facts are as indicated.

(h) No.

[5th February 1925]

Distance rule as between one toll-gate and another.

153 Q.—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state the distance that should ordinarily be allowed between one toll-gate and another on the same road and whether the distance rule, if any, need not be observed, if the road in question happens to be within the limits partially of one district board and partially of another?

A.—The attention of the hon. Member is invited to instruction 218 of the Local Boards Manual. Neighbouring district boards may, but are not bound to, observe the instruction in respect of the same road.

The remarks of the Government on the Dindigul Municipal Council.

154 Q.—Mr. R. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) the materials on which the Government have remarked in respect of the Dindigul Municipal Council that 'the Councillors behaved in a disorderly manner'; and

(b) how 'public interests' were subjected to 'personal prejudices'?

A.—The matter having already been fully discussed at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on 5th December 1924, the Government see no need to furnish any further information.

Medical.*Personal Assistant to the Surgeon-General.*

155 Q.—Rao Sahib U. RAMA RAO: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is not a fact that the appointment of Personal Assistant to the Surgeon-General is a full-timed appointment, and that the Personal Assistant is not allowed to have any private practice;

(b) whether the present incumbent is holding any other appointment, temporarily or permanently; and

(c) how long he has been holding such appointment?

A.—(a) The answer is in the affirmative.

(b) The present Personal Assistant is holding temporarily the appointments of Superintendent, Rayapuram Hospital, and Medical Inspector of Emigrants in addition to his duties.

(c) He has been in charge of the additional duties since the 3rd July 1924. Orders have been issued appointing another officer as Personal Assistant to the Surgeon-General.

Registration.*Vacancies in the cadre of district registrar.*

156 Q.—Mr. G. RAMESWARA RAO: Will the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) the number of vacancies (permanent) among district registrars which occurred in 1924;

5th February 1925]

- (b) when the vacancies occurred in each case ;
- (c) when they were filled up permanently in each case ;
- (d) whether any of them have not yet been filled up ; and if so, which ;
- (e) what, if any, are the reasons for not filling up the said vacancies permanently ;
- (f) whether there are no competent people to fill up the vacancies ;
- (g) whether any direct recruitment to fill up the vacancies is contemplated ; and
- (h) when the vacancies are likely to be filled up and how ?

- A.—(a) Five.
- (b) 3rd March ; 1st July ; 9th August ; 19th September ; and 6th November 1924.
- (c) & (d) None of the vacancies has been permanently filled up.
- (e) (f) & (h) The question of filling up the vacancies permanently is under consideration.
- (g) No.

II

DISCUSSION REGARDING STARRED AND UNSTARRED QUESTIONS.

[Note.—An asterisk (*) at the beginning of each speech indicates revision by the Member.]

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—“ I think, Sir, the first hour has to be devoted to questions. Now that we have finished all the starred questions can we not proceed with the unstarred ones ? ”

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“ I do not know what the House would like to do in the matter. We have so far agreed not to have oral questions put on unstarred questions and the Government, I presume, are not prepared for any supplementary questions on the ‘ unstarred ’ questions. If it is the desire of the House that when the ‘ starred ’ questions are over within the hour, we should go on with the ‘ unstarred ’ ones, the point will be considered and it is one which is very much in the hands of the House. As our present procedure is experimental we have not yet framed any Standing Orders authorising the procedure. The point will certainly be noted. I say this because I have observed in another Council that ‘ unstarred ’ questions were being dealt with after the ‘ starred ’ questions were over. But it is a Council where the number of ‘ starred ’ questions is not in any way as large as it is here.”

Rai Bahadur T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU :—“ With reference to this matter, when I raised the question of validity of the ruling upon ‘ unstarred ’ questions, you asked me to communicate my views. I did so a few weeks back and I do not know what has happened.”

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“ I have seen the hon. Member’s opinion and I am very much indebted to him for it. The Secretary will communicate to him the substance of what I have noted on the opinion. I do not profess to be able to recollect all that I said in the written communication. If he would please wait—I hope the communication is already on its way to him—and then raise any further points at question-time we can further consider the matter.”